GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4149
ANSWERED ON:18.05.2006
STANDARDS AND NORMS IN AI .
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Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the International Federation of Air Line Pilot`a Association(IFALPA) in a representation to the Prime Minister has expressed deep concern about the current situation in Air India(AI) and also the standards and norms being followed in AI as reported in the Times of India dated April 16, 2006;

(b)if so, the details thereof;

(c) the main issues pin-pointed by the IFALPA);

(d) whether a Committee has been constituted to look into the issues raised by the IFALPA;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure that standards and norms are followed in AI?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a), (b), and (c): Yes, Sir. The President of IFALAP has sent a representation to the Hon`ble Prime Minister alleging that the Air India was
(i) Ignoring minimum requirement for Instructors;
(ii) Violating Flight & Duty time limitations;
(iii) Management Pilots failing to report altitude violations;
(iv) DGCA seem not to be dealing with the issue.

(d) and (e): The allegations were examined by a Review Committee of Air India which found that these were unsubstantiated and were made without verifying the facts from Air India. The Committee also found that Air India was not violating rules & safety norms. A few Flight Duty Time violations were reported/detected which were investigated and necessary action against concerned pilots was taken. Air India follows rules for training pilots as stipulated in their approved training manual Further, one incident of altitude violation has been reported in recent past, which has already been investigated and corrective action taken.

(f) DGCA is carrying out regular Safety Audits to ensure that Safety Standards are maintained and Regulations adhered to. 100% monitoring of Flight data recorders is being carried out for exceedence and CVR monitoring is done regularly.